

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, before line 5, the paragraph beginning with "The invention relates" insert the following title and paragraph:

-- **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This is a U.S. national stage of application No. PCT/EP2004/050941, filed on 27 May 2004. Priority is claimed on the following application: Country: Germany, Application No.: 103 29 498.8, Filed: 30 June 2003.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --

Page 1, before line 25, the paragraph beginning with "The method according", insert the following title:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~One development of the method according~~ According to an embodiment of the invention, ~~consists in that~~ the excitation signal is also modulated with a modulation signal whose frequency produces sidebands which are located within the pass band of the bandpass filter, but are outside the frequency range of the rotation rate signal, in that the amplitude of

the modulation signal in the output signal is measured, and in that a fault message is emitted if the amplitude is less than a predetermined threshold value. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~One advantageous refinement of the development consists in that measurement~~
Measurement signals are may be taken from the demodulated components before the addition of the modulation signal, and are demodulated synchronously. In this case, provision is preferably made for the measurement signals to be tapped off before and after filtering of the demodulated output signals. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

-- According to another Another development embodiment of the ~~method according to~~
~~the invention,~~ consists in that the rotation rate signal is read from the output of the rotation rate sensor, and is compared with a rotation rate signal which is supplied to the output stages. This makes it possible, in particular, to check the output stages to determine whether the rotation rate signal is being passed on correctly. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 4, with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~Another development of the invention consists in that the~~ The digital and analog components are continuously checked by checking components, and ~~in that~~ monitoring components monitor the checking components at least once during one operating cycle. --

Page 4, before line 21, the paragraph beginning with "The invention allows", insert the following title:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The invention allows numerous embodiments. One of these will be described in the following text and is illustrated schematically in a number of figures in the drawing, in which:
Figure 1 ~~shows is~~ a block diagram of a rotation rate sensor,
Figure 2 ~~shows is~~ a more detailed illustration of the rotation rate sensor shown in Figure 1, and
Figure 3 ~~shows is~~ a secondary control loop in the rotation rate sensor. --

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Page 5, before line 1, the paragraph beginning with "The exemplary embodiment", insert the following title:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Page 12, line 1, amend the title as follows:

-- ~~Patent Claims~~ What is claimed is: --